

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 00808 230908Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /073 W  
-----231420Z 051694 /41

R 230845Z MAR 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4264  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0808

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, UK,UR, US, FR  
SUBJECT:RUDOLF HESS AND SON

SUMMARY: WOLF-RUEDIGER HESS VISITED HIS FATHER ON  
18 MARCH. AFTER HIS VISIT HE GAVE INTERVIEWS TO THE PRESS  
COMMENTING INACCURATELY ON HIS FATHER'S CONDITION, AND  
DIVULGING ACCURATELY PARTS OF A LETTER HE RECEIVED POST-  
PONING AN EARLIER VISIT. END SUMMARY.

1. WOLF-RUEDIGER HESS WAS PERMITTED TO VISIT HIS FATHER  
IN SPANDAU ON FRIDAY, MARCH 18. AT THE TIME OF THE  
VISIT SOME TWENTY PRESSMEN AND PHOTOGRAPHERS  
WERE GATHERED IN THE VICINITY OF SPANDAU, PRESUMABLY AT  
HESS JR.'S SUMMONS.

2. OVER THE WEEKEND ARTICLES ON HESS WERE CARRIED IN  
BILD ZEITUNG, DIE WELT AND DER TAGESSPIEGEL. WHILE PRESS  
INTEREST CONTINUES, THE ARTICLES ON HESS ARE NOW  
GENERALLY RELEGATED TO THE INSIDE PAGES.

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PAGE 02 USBERL 00808 230908Z

3. IN HIS COMMENTS TO THE PRESS, HESS JR. CRITICIZED THE  
FOUR POWERS FOR THE " EXTRAORDINARILY SUPERFICIAL MEDICAL  
TREATMENT" (AUSSERORDENTLICH OBERFLAECHELICHE BEHANDLUNG)  
GIVEN HIS FATHER. HE ARUGED THAT HIS FATHER'S  
STOMACH DISORDERS WERE NOT BEING PROPERLY CARED FOR, AND  
THAT HE ( HESS SR.) WAS ONLY BEING GIVEN PILLS TO ALLEVIATE  
HIS DISCOMFORT.

4. HESS JR. ALSO SHARED THE CONTENTS OF A LETTER HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE SPANDAU AUTHORITIES. HE REPORTED THAT THE LETTER HAD POSTPONED A PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED VISIT WITH HIS FATHER FOR " ADMINISTRATIVE REASONS," HAD INCLUDED A WARNING ABOUT SPEAKING TO THE PUBLIC ON WHAT TRANSPIRED DURING HIS VISITS TO SPANDAU, AND HAD POINTED OUT THAT " IN THE EVENT OF REPETITION OF SUCH OFFENCES AGAINST THE EXISTING RULES" FURTHER VISITS COULD BE DENIED.

5. COMMENT: HESS JR. IS CONTINUING HIS CAMPAIGN TO SEEK HIS FATHER'S RELEASE VIA THE ROUTE OF PUBLIC OPINION. HESS JR.'S COMMENTS ON THE MEDICAL CARE GIVEN TO HIS FATHER ARE GROSSLY INACCURATE AND CONSTITUTE AN ATTEMPT ON HIS PART TO FIND A MEANS OF HAVING HIS FATHER RELEASED FROM SPANDAU FOR REASONS OF HEALTH. AS HE ACCURATELY REPORTED TO THE PRESS, HE HAS BEEN WARNED BY THE SPANDAU AUTHORITIES THAT ENGAGING IN PRESS INTERVIEWS FOLLOWING A VISIT IS A VIOLATION OF THE TERMS UNDER WHICH HE IS PERMITTED TO VISIT HESS SR. WHILE THE SOVIETS WERE INCLINED TO DENY HESS JR. A MARCH ENTIRELY, THE WESTERN SPANDAU GOVERNORS SUCCEEDED IN GAINING SOVIET AGREEMENT TO A VISIT AT A DATE LATER THAN THE ONE HESS JR. ORIGINALLY PROPOSED. THE VISIT WAS GRANTED AND THE CHANGE OF DATES WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN DUE TO " ADMINISTRATIVE REASONS." WE WERE ABLE TO CONVINCE THE SOVIETS THAT HESS SR. SHOULD NOT BE MADE TO SUFFER ( BY BEING DENIED VISITS FROM HIS SON) FOR THE INFRACTIONS OF HESS JR. WE SUSPECT THE SOVIETS NOW WILL BECOME HARDER TO CONVINCE WHERE WOLF-RUEDIGER IS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 USBERL 00808 230908Z

INVOLVED.  
GEORGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, WB, UK, UR, US, FR, (HESS, RUDOLF), (HESS, WOLF-RUEDIGER)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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